

## Message Text

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11

ACTION NEA-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 PM-03 SP-02 L-01

INR-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 IO-03 PRS-01 /041 W

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R 161055Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

TO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

SECSTATE WASHDC 2258

C O N F I D E N T I A L KUWAIT 0760

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PLO, XF, JO

SUBJECT: DISCUSSION WITH ABDEL MUNIM AL RIFA'I

REF: AMMAN 963

1. KUWAIT DAILY AS SIYASA EDITOR-IN-CHIEF AND OWNER, AHMED JARALLA, WAS IN AMMAN FEBRUARY 5, AND IT IS NOT SURPRISING THAT HE SAW KING HUSSEIN AND OTHERS IN JORDAN POWER STRUCTURE. TO DATE NO REPORTS HAVE APPEARED IN THIS PAPER COMING FROM RECENT TRIP, BUT ON TWO PREVIOUS OCCASIONS IN PAST FOUR YEARS, AS SIYASA PUBLISHED JARALLA INTERVIEWS WITH KING. FOR AT LEAST ONE INTERVIEW, HE WAS INVITED TO AMMAN BY OR THROUGH THEN MINISTER OF INFORMATION ABU ODEH. GOI CONSIDERED AS SIYASA USEFUL VEHICLE TO GET JORDAN'S VIEWS TO ARAB WORLD. THIS PAPER IS NO MORE PRO-PLO THAN OTHERS IN KUWAIT, AND IT IS UNLIKELY THAT MOTIVE WOULD BE TO EMBARRASS JORDAN.

2. TO EMBASSY'S KNOWLEDGE, JARALLA HAS NO SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP WITH PLO LEADERSHIP. IT SEEMS STRANGE PLO LEADERS WOULD SELECT

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HIM FOR SUCH MISSION, EVEN IF ONLY TRIAL BALLOON. THOUGH FAIRLY

DYNAMIC NEWSMAN, HE IS CONSIDERED OPPORTUNIST. ADDITIONALLY, PLO OFFICE AND OFFICIALS IN KUWAIT ARE REMOVED FROM ORGANIZATION'S MAIN POLITICAL POLICY DETERMINATION. OUR GUESS IS THAT JARALLA WAS ON FISHING EXPEDITION OF HIS OWN MAKING OR USED INFORMATION HE RECEIVED FROM PLO AND OTHER SOURCES AS HAVING MORE BACKING AND SANCTION THAN IN FACT IS CASE. IN SUM, WE TEND DISCOUNT SIGNIFICANCE WHAT HE TOLD RIFA'I, EVEN THOUGH SOME ARAB LEADERS WOULD BE MORE COMFORTABLE WITH HUSSEIN AND JORDAN IN WEST BANK IF THIS WERE FEASIBLE IN CONTEXT OF CURRENT POLITICS AND PUBLIC OPINION IN ARAB WORLD.

3. THIS CABLE HELD IN KUWAIT UNTIL MINIMIZE LIFTED.  
STOLTZFUS

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** LIBERATION FRONTS, PRESS CONFERENCES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 16 FEB 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** ElyME  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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